



Department of Medical Assistance Services  
600 East Broad Street, Suite 1300  
Richmond, Virginia 23219

[www.dmas.virginia.gov](http://www.dmas.virginia.gov)

# MEDICAID MEMO

**TO:** Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, Clinical Nurse Specialists, Nurse Midwives, Hospitals, State Mental Hospitals, Private Mental Hospitals, Residential Treatment/Treatment Foster Care Facilities, Health Departments, Rural Health Clinics, Federally Qualified Health Centers, School Health Clinics, Outpatient Clinics, and Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) participating in the Virginia Medical Assistance Program

**FROM:** Patrick W. Finnerty, Director  
Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS)

**MEMO:** Special

**DATE:** 8/1/2007

**SUBJECT:** Enrollment of Additional Specialties of Licensed Nurse Practitioners – Effective August 1, 2007

The purpose of this memorandum is to advise providers that the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) will be directly enrolling additional specialties of Licensed Nurse Practitioners into the Fee-For-Service Medicaid program, effective August 1, 2007. DMAS currently enrolls the following specialties of Licensed Nurse Practitioners, recognized by the Virginia Board of Nursing:

- Obstetrics/Gynecology
- Pediatrics
- Women's Health
- Family
- Certified Nurse Midwives

In addition to the above-mentioned specialties, the following additional specialties of Licensed Nurse Practitioners can directly enroll in the Virginia Medicaid program effective August 1, 2007:

- Geriatric
- Adult
- Neonatal
- Acute Care
- Psychiatric

**This action does not impact the current enrollment procedures of Medicaid Contracted Managed Care Organizations (MCOs).**

### **REIMBURSEMENT RATES**

Psychiatric Nurse Practitioners will be paid the same rate for psychiatric diagnosis, evaluation, and psychotherapy services as psychiatric clinical nurse specialists, which is 67% of the rate currently paid to Medicaid enrolled Psychiatrists. For other procedures, such as physical examinations, psychiatric nurse practitioners will be reimbursed at the same rate as other nurse practitioners, which is 100% of the physician rate. Reimbursement rates may be reviewed at [www.dmas.virginia.gov/pr-fee\\_files.htm](http://www.dmas.virginia.gov/pr-fee_files.htm).

### **PROVIDER ENROLLMENT**

Licensed Nurse Practitioners will be required to obtain a National Provider Identifier (NPI) prior to enrolling in the Virginia Medicaid Program. Nurse Practitioners may obtain an NPI by contacting the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES) at 1-800-465-3203 or by applying online at <https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov>. After obtaining an NPI, Nurse Practitioners must submit a completed provider enrollment package to First Health Services Corporation (FHSC). FHSC is the fiscal agent for Virginia's Medical Assistance Program and administers all provider enrollment functions for Virginia Medicaid. The enrollment package can be acquired at [www.dmas.virginia.gov](http://www.dmas.virginia.gov) (then click on **Provider Enrollment** on the left-side menu) or by contacting:

First Health Services – Provider Enrollment Unit (PEU)

P.O. Box 26803

Richmond, VA 23261-6803

1-888-829-5373 (in-state, toll-free long distance)

1-804-270-5105 (Richmond area and out-of-state long distance)

Fax: 1-804-270-7027

Nurse Practitioners already enrolled in the Virginia Medicaid Program who have one of the specialties that are being added by DMAS on August 1, 2007 must contact the Provider Enrollment Unit to add this specialty to the DMAS Provider file.

### **ELIGIBILITY AND CLAIMS STATUS INFORMATION**

DMAS offers a web-based Internet option to access information regarding Medicaid eligibility, claims status, check status, service limits, prior authorization, and pharmacy prescriber identification information. The website address to use to enroll for access to this system is <http://virginia.fhsc.com>. The MediCall voice response system will provide the same information and can be accessed by calling 800-884-9730 or 800-772-9996. Both options are available at no cost to the provider.

### **COPIES OF MANUALS**

DMAS publishes electronic and printable copies of its Provider Manuals and Medicaid Memoranda on the DMAS website at [www.dmas.virginia.gov](http://www.dmas.virginia.gov). Refer to the "DMAS Content Menu" column on the left-hand side of the DMAS web page for the "Provider Services" link,

which takes you to the "Manuals, Memos and Communications" link. This link opens up a page that contains all of the various communications to providers, including Provider Manuals and Medicaid Memoranda. The Internet is the most efficient means to receive and review current provider information. If you do not have access to the Internet or would like a paper copy of a manual, you can order it by contacting Commonwealth-Martin at 1-804-780-0076. A fee will be charged for the printing and mailing of the manuals and manual updates that are requested.

**"HELPLINE"**

The "HELPLINE" is available Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except on state holidays, to answer questions. The "HELPLINE" numbers are:

1-804-786-6273	Richmond area and out-of-state long distance
1-800-552-8627	All other areas (in-state, toll-free long distance)

Please remember that the "HELPLINE" is for provider use only. Please have your Medicaid provider identification number available when you call.